

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0165

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC, UY
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING: AN INVENTORY
OF URUGUAYAN INTERESTS

1. MISOFF MET JANUARY 18 WITH URUGUAYAN PERMREP CARLOS GIAMBRUNO, WHO WILL ALSO BE REP TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 6-MARCH 10 IN GENEVA. HE IS LEAVING HIS POST IN NYC AND WILL BE REASSIGNED IN THE NEXT FRE MONTHS TO AN UNKNOWN POST. HE SAID THERE WERE GOING TO BE "QUITE A FEW" CHANGES IN THE URUGUAYAN POSTING IN THIS PERIOD.
2. GIAMBRUNO TOOK OCCASION TO LAMENT "CONCERTED US CAMPAIGN IN ALL THE CAPITALS OF LATIN AMERICA" TO BLOCK HAVING NEXT GA OF OAS IN MONTEVIDEO. HE REMARKED THAT THE ASSEMBLY IN SANTIAGO SEVERAL YEARS AGO "DURING THE WORST TIME THERE" HAD A POSITIVE EFFECT, AND THAT HAVING ALL THE OAS LEADERS AND REPORTS MADE IN MONTEVIDEO WOULD SERVE THE SAME PURPOSE.
3. HE SAID URUGUAY WOULD RESIST ANY ATTEMPTS TO SINGLE IT OUT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WITHOUT ALSO MENTIONING NATIONS FROM

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OTHER GEOGRAPHIC AREAS OF THE WORLD. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF 1503 PROCEDURES WERE KEPT, AND GOVERNMENTS CONSULTED, AND ADEQUATE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND A SPECIFIC BUT LIMITED MANDATE DEFINED, URUGUAY MIGHT BE WILLING TO GO ALONG. HE SAID THE LIMITS OF HIS FREEDOM IN THIS AREA WOULD BE DISCUSSED NEXT WEEK WHEN HE IS IN MONTEVIDEO.

4. GIAMBRUNO ALSO SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS SERIOUSLY UPSET WITH THE LACK OF RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SUB-COMMISSION, AND WOULD HAVE A HARD TIME" SUPPORTING THE SUB-COMMISSION."

5. HE URGED THAT THE CHILE RESOLUTION BE MODERATED, THE "POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS" OF THE GOC RECOGNIZED, THAT A GREATER EMPHASIS ON DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS BE PART OF THE RESOLUTION, AND THAT THE LINK WITH CUBA AS A CO-SPONSOR BE BROKEN. NOTE: URUGUAY WAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION THAT VOTED AGAINST THE CHILE RESOLUTION LAST YEAR. GIAMBRUNO HAS BEEN THE MOST ELOQUENT AND EFFECTIVE DEFENDER OF CHILE IN THE UN.

6. AT MISOFF'S REQUEST, HE PROMISED TO SUPPLY US WITH SOME SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR SUB-COMMISSION PROCEDURES WHEN HE ARRIVES IN GENEVA ABOUT FEBRUARY 6. HE ALSO AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT A MORE BALANCED UN APPROACH, PERHAPS WITH WORKING GROUPS FOR SEVERAL NATIONS, WOULD HELP TO IMPROVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE UN. HE ASSURED MISOFF OF HIS DESIRE TO STAY IN CLOSE INFORMAL CONTACT WITH THE USDEL IN GENEVA.

7. COMMENT: GIAMBRUNO WILL BE MISSED AT THE UN. HE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONAL, WHO TRY'S TO MODERATE HIS GOVERNMENT'S PRACTICE AND IMAGE IN ANY PRACTICAL
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WAY HE CAN.

8. GIAMBRUNO RECALLED WITH PRIDE URUGUAY'S EARLIER (BEFORE COSTA RICA'S) ADVOCACY OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND INDICATED THAT HE MAY BE WILLING TO PUSH THIS CONCEPT AT THE HRC.
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